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MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROGRAMMING CYCLES

"Main Principles and Guidelines for the Sixth Programming Cycle of the United Nations Development Programme", declaration adopted in Santiago on 7 September 1994 by Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay

Note by the Administrator

1. The Permanent Representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay to the United Nations, in a letter dated 14 September to the Administrator, have requested that the attached declaration entitled "Main Principles and Guidelines for the Sixth Programming Cycle of the United Nations Development Programme", adopted in Santiago on 7 September 1994 by Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, be circulated as an official document under item 7 of the provisional agenda of the third regular session 1994 since the commitments undertaken in Santiago are related to that item.

2. Accordingly, the Administrator has the honour to transmit the annexed declaration to the Executive Board.

SANTIAGO DECLARATION

MAIN PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE SIXTH PROGRAMMING CYCLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

Taking into account the 1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action, UNDP Governing Council decisions 90/34 on the fifth programming cycle and 91/29 on preparations for the fifth programming cycle, decisions 94/17, 94/14 and 94/11 of the Executive Board of UNDP held in June 1994, and documents DP/1994/39 and DP/1994/20 by the Administrator of UNDP,

Having conducted a mid-term evaluation of United Nations Development Programme activities during the fifth programming cycle in general, and in the countries of the Southern Cone Common Market and Chile in particular,

Taking into account the preliminary discussions on the sixth programming cycle at the Executive Board of UNDP (June 1994),

Analysing the persistence of falling trends in financial flows to the United Nations Development Programme in general, and the financial situation with respect to activities in Latin America and the Caribbean in particular,

Observing that the debate on the future of the United Nations Development Programme has been linked with the process of discussion regarding the next programming period,

Taking into account the joint position adopted by the countries of the region in general, and by the Southern Cone Common Market in Chile in particular, at La Paz, Bolivia, as reflected in the draft decision on the sixth cycle in the context of the Latin American system, approved in decision 351 of the Latin American Council of the Latin American system, and in the Buenos Aires and Brasilia Declarations, and with a view to the next session of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme to be held in New York in October 1994.

The countries of the Southern Cone Common Market in Chile agree:

1. To reaffirm the principles of eligibility of all developing countries, as provided in the Buenos Aires and Brasilia Declarations, on the basis of the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, as well as the capacity to respond to the needs of all recipient countries in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development, as endorsed by the Executive Board at the session held in June 1994;

2. To support Executive Board decision 94/17 and in this context to continue making specific proposals on issues relating to programming objectives, resource distribution and financing mechanisms;

3. To request the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to report periodically on progress made in the study of the programming objectives, resource distribution criteria and financing mechanisms;

4. To emphasize that the areas and modalities of action under consideration by UNDP constitute only a frame of reference and that the definition of cooperation programmes must be based fundamentally on the national priorities of recipient countries;

5. To stress the importance of adapting the cooperation mechanisms of the United Nations Development Programme to the specific characteristics and requirements of countries in their various stages of development, and of this being reflected in the resource allocation criteria;

6. To reiterate the importance of revising the graduation concept by incorporating into it the criterion of gradualism and maintaining the allocation of resources through indicative planning figures, as well as their utilization on the basis of the national priorities of recipient countries, so that they will serve as an incentive to the mobilization of additional resources;

7. To support the initiative of studying a change in the duration of programming cycles, to the extent that new mechanisms for financing the IPF are implemented which will ensure its predictability and reduce the financial risks with respect to availability of resources;

8. To reiterate the need for countries to have a greater degree of involvement in the various phases of selection, formulation and management of regional projects, so that these respond to initiatives and priorities determined by them. There is also agreement to raise the need for the definition of areas on which to focus the resources of the fifth regional cycle to emerge from a process of consultation and discussion among the recipient countries themselves;

9. To request the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to organize a regional meeting, initially in the context of Latin America and the Caribbean, to analyse the considerations raised in the preceding paragraph;

10. To indicate the desirability of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme establishing new bases of support for the promotion of the cooperation activities conducted for the benefit of developing countries in constant and continuous contact with them;

11. To urge the United Nations Development Programme to strengthen its role as a mobilizer of additional public and private resources which will make it possible to increase the effectiveness of the international cooperation of the United Nations system.

Argentina

(Signed) Ambassador Carlos E. Zaballa
Under-Secretary for International Cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of the Argentine Republic

Brazil

(Signed) Minister Sergio Arruda
Director of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency of the Federative Republic of Brazil

Chile

(Signed) Carlos Fuensalida Claro
Executive Director of the Agency for International Cooperation of the Republic of Chile

Paraguay

(Signed) Leyla Dami de Gímenez
Director of the Office of International Technical Cooperation of the Republic of Paraguay

Uruguay

(Signed) Mariano Berro
Director of the International Cooperation Division, Department of Planning and Budget in the Office of the President of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay

Santiago, 7 September 1994